

SOCIAL MEDIA | TOUGH TOPIC

In connection with the following Bible Story:

THE TRANSFIGURATION - Mark 9:2-13, Luke 9:28-36

Platforms such as YouTube, TikTok, Snapchat and Instagram are flooding our kids' minds and hearts. Today's kids are exposed to much more of the world at younger ages. Take some time to determine your family's boundaries for social media. Also be aware that the boundaries in your home may not be the same in your kids' friends' homes. Your kids can view content on friends' screens if they aren't allowed to have it on their own. Be aware of what your kids are viewing. Follow the same influencers, view the same videos, and keep up with the same accounts. By checking out some of their favorites, you will get an idea of how their worldview is being shaped. Jesus revealed the glory of God when He was transformed. Point your kids to the beautiful life that comes from focusing on Him more than social media influencers.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN DISCUSS THIS TOPIC WITH YOUR KIDS ...

Ask: How many hours a day would you say you're on social media, like YouTube?

Ask: What are some types of things you focus on when you look at social media?

Ask: What do you think God has to say about that?

Say: Social media by itself is not a bad thing, but it can be a challenge when we let social media change what we focus on. For example, if everything you see on social media involves people who speak sarcastically or are mean to each other, your brain and body might start copying that behavior. If you watch a lot of videos about toys or money or things you may want, you may believe that owning things will make you happy instead of knowing Jesus. Social media can make us very self-centered instead of focused on God's awesomeness. Hebrews 12:2 reminds us: *"Let us look only to Jesus. He is the one who began our faith, and he makes our faith perfect."*